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And Cash Sales are fully shown
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Their prices and the good quality of
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"We the people" that must be respected do ordain as follows: That any person or persons that would dare to offer for sale any clothing, either in men's, boy's or childrens, below our cut prices, shall be sentenced to hard labor at 25 cents a day, that they may help to support themselves and those dependent upon them. Any person knowing of any violation of this "edict" shall be rewarded with a "bone collar button" by proving the same to the satisfaction of

G. W. JOHNSON & CO.

120 STATE STREET.

The talk of Town and Country

The Peremptory

Auction Sale!

Has only been running a few days and it
has been a grand success, and no wonder,
because the people have been getting just
the goods they wanted at their own prices.

I will certainly pay you all to attend, as you, too, can get
your own purchases at your own prices. The assortment is
as good, so do not delay, but come at once, remember the
place,

Corner State and Commercial sts., Salem.

S. FRIEDMAN, Auctioneer.

A Portland Conference.

Sentiment Unanimous for an Honorable Union of Forces.

Populist One-Plank Plan Dissected

Would Lead to a Combination With One of the Republican Factions.

PORTLAND, Jan. 9.—The Democratic, Silver Republican and Union State Central committee have been in session here for two days, in their work of attempting to form a Union Bimetallist Referendum Reform party for Oregon.

How well they have succeeded time alone will tell. There is an apparent unanimity of desire that the Republicans shall be opposed by only one organization, embracing the voters who supported Bryan and Watson electors in 1896.

To this end the Democratic, Silver Republican and Union State Central committee have been in session here for two days, in their work of attempting to form a Union Bimetallist Referendum Reform party for Oregon.

The People's party state executive committee issued a call for their state convention to be held at Portland, March 23. There is difference of opinion among the members of that committee as to that call, at least two of the five dissenting. The State Central committee of the People's party is called to meet at Portland, January 19, to endorse the action of the executive committee or call a new state convention after conference with the Democrats and Silver Republicans.

This is the situation at this date. The Democratic state committee called their state convention for the same time and place as the Populists—March 23. The Silver Republicans then accepted that date and issued their call. These are all preliminary details necessary for an Union. It is no doubt the intention of one faction of the People's party to force all the members of that party onto a one-plank referendum platform, whether for good or ill, and hold their convention alone if possible.

That is no doubt the well-defined and clearly expressed purpose of the so-called middle-of-the-roads or radical Populists. In the plain without the referendum no other reforms are worth trying for. So they want all the Populists to come onto that platform and put out a ticket, pledged to that alone and ask the Democrats and Silver Republicans to ratify their ticket. It is plain that a one plank referendum platform presents nothing that the Gold Republicans or Mitchell Republicans could not "endorse". In the event of two Republican tickets in the June election this would permit a great deal of trading and of some wonderful combinations. I believe the one plank Populists are sincere, but I think they overestimate the importance of the initiative and referendum as a solution of all the problems the people have before them. It is a new and untried experiment in Oregon and would take four or six years to get it into action.

It will prove a slow, tedious and complicated process, and how Populists who have advocated financial reform for twenty years, to say nothing of trusts, relief from high taxes and monopolies, under which the people are suffering, can think of laying aside these issues at present, I confess I cannot understand.

I do not believe the Democratic party will drop its Chicago platform of opposition to the gold standard and to the trusts and high tariffs, to go it alone on the referendum. The Silver Republicans are willing to make a fight for direct legislation, or so much of the Swiss referendum system as is applicable and practical under American institutions, but will never consent to abandon their fight for independent American bimetalism for any other one issue.

As I am not seeking any office at the hands of the Union forces, and as Silver Republicans contend for a national principle of financial reform, I am frank in saying that I think it is not time for the People's Party to make a change of front. I believe it is the duty of People's Party men to remain true to their principles of financial reform and not permit their party to be switched off onto "referendum only" campaign, that will divide their party and make it impossible for the Silver Democrats and Silver Republicans to honorably unite with them for one ticket, one platform and against a common enemy.

The Bryan Democrats and Silver Republicans can under no circumstances put themselves in an attitude of abandoning the financial issue and get onto a platform that Gold Democrats or Gold Republicans can endorse as a party or as individuals. If we are sincere in opposing the gold standard and they are sincere in advocating it no such monstrous coalition can ever be accomplished openly or covertly in Oregon politics. I do not say it is the intention of the Populist leaders to compromise on the money question, but I do say such would be the result if the People's party puts itself on a one-plank referendum platform and invites all voters regardless of other issues to join them. I warn them and warn the party not to attempt it, because it will render an honorable Union of the

Silver and Reform forces impossible and confusion and corruption inevitable. We concede the right of the People's party to demand that the initiative and referendum shall have a place in the platform. Democrats and Silver Republicans have a right to demand that opposition to the gold standard and corporation bank currency shall be the basis and corner stone of the Union. All the people have a right to demand a plain pledge of honesty and economy in our state and county government.

With a platform of these three planks, and possibly one more, that all officials be chosen by the direct vote of the people, we can go forward to a certain victory in the June election.

I cannot see why the People's party state central committee, when it meets on January 19, cannot create an executive committee of five, or any number it likes, and instruct it to meet the other two Silver organizations in an open, honorable conference for a Union ticket and platform, with no sacrifice of principle, but for the common good of the masses of the people and the common rights of the taxpayers of Oregon. I admit that, numerically they are strongest of the Reform forces, but I deny their right as an organization to take any advantage on that account, or to imperil the right of the people to relief at the hands of the Reform forces.

I believe the voters who voted for Bryan and Watson, and all who for any reason are dissatisfied with Republican control have a right to demand at our hands a solid opposition party and the one chance to cast a direct ballot for the only ticket that can give relief for a party composed of the voters who alone can promote reforms. If such a ticket is not put up fairly and without the stain of corrupt deals at the very start it will be defeated.

The people are tired of "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain" at the hands of bosses and managers. The Republican party is rent in twain by the highway methods of those who pursue personal politics regardless of principle.

Let the reform forces in Oregon step upon higher ground. Let us inaugurate a new era of good government uncontaminated by tricksters from within, and unvilitated by the corroding touch of the corruption from without.

E. HOFER.

British in Hong Kong.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Hong Kong, says it is reported there that England, Japan and Russia have arrived at an agreement respecting Corea. The details of the agreement are not known to the correspondent, but the dispatch says that the British fleet is returning to Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong correspondent of the Times, under date of January 6, says: A high Russian official has left Peking for Canton to discuss certain matters with the viceroy, who has been ordered to agree to his demands.

Blackmailed.

BUDAPEST, Jan. 10.—A sensation has been caused by the arrest of Rose Benke, a musical hall singer, together with several male accomplices, on the charge of blackmailing King Alexander, of Serbia. It is said that they also tried to blackmail Prince Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, and ex-King Milan, of Serbia. The arrests were made at the latter's instigation. Startling revelations are expected. A music hall singer who sold letters addressed to her by the king of Serbia was expelled from Budapest at the request of the Serbian minister.

Their Forces.

CAIRO, Jan. 10.—The dervishes continue massing their forces at Metemeh, between 80 and 90 miles below Khartoum, and there is great activity of Omdurman. Nothing is known here in confirmation of the report that the French mission under Captain Marchand, has arrived at Fashoda.

Paris, Jan. 10.—Count Ferdinand Walsby, of the French army, who is accused of the authorship of the letters published recently in Figaro, reflecting upon France and the army, surrendered at the Cherche-Midi prison for trial by court-martial, ordered by General Fassinier, military governor of Paris.

New Suits.

A. N. Moores has begun an ejectment suit against Ross E. Wiley H., and Carroll L. Moores, and Ross E. and Wiley A. Moores, as joint executors of the will and testament and estate of Ellen L. Moores, deceased. Plaintiff demands judgment against the defendants for the recovery of the possession of lots 1 and 2 and the north half of lot 3 in block 59, Salem, which he alleges belongs to him and are now wrongfully held by defendants. The sum of \$100 damages is also asked for. The attorney for the plaintiff is John A. Carson.

THE KLONDIKE RUSH.—Is again being revived but the rush to Branson & Co's., for high grade groceries was never greater or more noticeable than at present. It is to the interest of the housekeeper to call and see their goods.

KNOW-A GOOD THING.—That if the reason so many smokers will have none other than "Our Champion" cigar made by A. H. Huestein. As a 5-cent cigar it is not equalled anywhere.

In Clackamas county 160 licenses for marriages were issued.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

Judges Are to Be Appointed for Alaska.

A DELEGATE FOR CONGRESS.

Civil Service Debate—Amendment Suggested.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Senators Thurston, Carter and White, constituting the committee on Alaska of the senate committee on territories, held a session. They practically decided to recommend that the territory be given three judges instead of one, and that the judges be authorized to appoint United States commissioners, this power being now vested in the president. They discussed the advisability of allowing a delegate in congress, and while they did not decide to recommend this course, they considered it with more favor than heretofore. There is great pressure on this concession. The principal objection urged against it is the difficulty of getting convenient polling places.

The house devoted time to the civil service debate, during which Corliss, Hepburn and Clarke addressed the house in opposition to the law as it now stands. The remainder of the session was consumed by the friends of the late Representative Wright, of Massachusetts, in eulogies of his memory.

Corliss was the first speaker. He favored radical modifications of the civil service law. He thought the heads of departments were clothed with the power of appointing their subordinates, to that extent, he thought, the law if tested would be unconstitutional. He believed the right of removal should be restored, and the tenure of office limited.

Hepburn spoke for an hour against what he termed the popular impression of the so-called merit system. The public, he argued, had been utterly misled by the high-sounding titles referred to. In some things the old system at its worst was superior to the new.

"My colleagues in this house," said he, "know the qualifications of their constituents, and the best system of candidates for office have everything at stake."

He delivered the appointive power and power of removal should be lodged in the same hands and should be unlimited. A mad burst of applause greeted his declaration that the door would be closed when he insisted that political workers were entitled to and should be accorded recognition. If there were to be no rewards for the workers in the future would be more and more loyal to rich contributors, to the detriment of their country. If the present system continued, the influence of rich men in politics would grow steadily.

Hepburn said he knew his frank expressions would earn criticism for him and it would probably be said that he placed himself on a low political plane, but these were his convictions and he would utter them.

Clarke closed the debate for the day with some remarks in favor of modifying the law. He did not care to specify the modifications he would make. He was willing to leave that to the civil service commission. But "any old thing" was better than the present law. (Laughter.)

Secretary Long has addressed the following letter to the senate:

"Navy Department, Washington, Jan. 1, 1898. Sirs: In compliance with the request of the senate, dated December 18, 1897, the navy department has the honor to say that in its opinion the only amendment which experience suggests in the laws governing the civil service or the rules adopted by the civil service commission relates to the latter—the rules. The amendment regarded as advisable is that the civil service commission should approve what may be called a navy-yard order providing that the secretary of the navy may, upon competitive examination by a board of naval officers, appoint certain employees at navy-yards, etc., other than clerks, messengers, watchmen and draughtsmen, whom the commission either does not have on its eligible list or are unable to supply without unreasonable delay. There have been several cases—one of a lever and rodman; another of a special laborer having the technical knowledge of machinery, whom the commission were several months in furnishing, and whose services were much needed during that time."

Confessed to Murder.

SELMA, Ala., Jan. 10.—News from Tuscaloosa says that Rice Banks, a negro, has surrendered to the sheriff of that place. He confesses to having been a party to the murder of Lon Wilson, a wealthy country merchant near Akron, two years ago. He says Wilson's three nephews are equally guilty with him. One of them committed suicide in Meridian, Miss., several months ago, and left a statement that his life had been so full of dark deeds that he could find no rest this side of the grave.

Wilson, the murdered man, was found dead in his store, pinioned and gagged. A large sum of money was missing. The murder was a great mystery, and the confession of Banks is a great surprise.

PATIENTS BUTCHERED.

A Chicago Hospital Supplies Subjects for Dissection.

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—Are the inmates of the county institution at Dunning offered for sale to medical colleges, like cattle, and then slaughtered for use in a dissecting room, if a buyer is found?

Is there one ward in the asylum known as the "killer" ward, where miserable candidates for dissection are put so they can be allowed to disappear—"wander off" or "escape," as the records read?

Is anybody's kinsman, who happens to be in that ward of the Cook county hospital because of intimacies, likely to be murdered for the price which an official at Dunning can obtain for the corpse?

Dr. Wm. Smith asks these questions and out of his own experience answers them affirmatively.

He is the man who stole the bodies from the Dunning morgue, October 24, with the aid of Nightwatchman Ulick.

He is demonstrator of anatomy at the American School of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Mo.

He is a graduate of the University of Edinburgh.

His attainments and character make any statement by him worthy serious consideration.

He is indicted in Cook county for stealing bodies from the county charnel house, and Sheriff Pease and President Healy are now doing their utmost in bringing him back to Chicago to answer to the charge of body-snatching.

He is coming, if Governor Stone, of Missouri, says he has to, but meanwhile Dr. Smith has some information for the public relative to graver crimes.

Wes John Humpel, one of the Dunning inmates, who was cheated of his grave by that midnight raid, killed by force?

Dr. Smith asks that also.

So do all his associate professors at the Kirksville institution.

The reason they ask it is that the body which is now on the dissecting-tables of the American college of osteopathy, gives evidence that the man did not die of acute mania, as the county records allege, nor of consumption, as we printed at the time of the theft, but from a shock and concussion delivered by blows upon the back of his head and other savage injuries to his body.

"I was offered my own selection of subjects among the lying patients of the Cook county institution, while I was on the ground securing that consent of bodies," says Dr. Smith. "The proposal came from one in authority in the institution. He told me I could go in the 'killer ward' and pick out any interesting cases 'on the hoof,' and that within 24 hour he would have them fixed for me—put into trunks and shipped to me for \$50 a head."

"The proposal filled me with unutterable horror, which my declaration must carry to every one who reads it, and I put a prompt quietus on the official's revelation by assuring him that I was not in that sort of business."

"This offer of butchering patients for use in my college was made while we were in the morgue looking over material."

"I was horrified. I was given to understand that the patients would be supplied to my order."

"They would be killed."

Mrs. WILLMAN, Piano and organ studio over First National bank. 5-11

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

MAY WAVE OVER CUBA

An American Protectorate—Stars and Stripes.

SPAIN FAVORS THE INNOVATION

De Lome Said to Have Instructions to Present a Proposal.

New York, Jan. 10.—The World

says: "Influences have been brought to bear on Sagasta that have induced him to direct De Lome to make a proposal to the state department looking to an American protectorate over Cuba and possible annexation," said a member of the Cuban junta last night. "For several weeks the Spaniards have been remarkably active, and at the same time remarkably secretive. There have been all kinds of ministry visits to the state department and whispered conferences behind closed doors between rich Havana merchants and the agents of the Spanish minister."

"We knew there was something in the wind, but for some time we could not find out what it was. Finally, by an intricate process of detective work by our Washington agents, we have begun an unearthing of a plot that leads to nothing less than the establishing by the United States of a protectorate over Cuba and the complete retirement of Spain from the island. The Spaniards in Cuba, especially the rich and influential, realize that Spain has lost her grip on the island forever. They can never again call on the Spaniards for protection for their lives and property."

"There is a possibility that this latest Spanish expedition may succeed. I think I voice the sentiment of my countrymen when I say that so far as we are concerned we should not greatly object to being ruled by and absorbed into the American republic. The state department is now considering the proposition."

Salem's Greatest Store:

THE Old White Corner!

Annual Clearance Sale! Reductions in All Lines.

Contract lines excepted. Money saving by making your purchases at a LEGITIMATE BONA FIDE sale. REMEMBER we make no promises without producing the pro f. MONEY BACK if not as represented. Satisfaction guaranteed.

59c. pair for a line of gloves that formerly sold for \$1.00 and \$1.50 per pair, broken sizes and lots to close; a great many have been sold—some good ones left. 59c.

Bernhardt Gloves, XX Men's Shirts, XX One of the most celebrated gloves in the east, formerly sold at \$2.25 a pair, our price has been \$1.75. We offer them to close at PAIR. 65c.

Children's Clothing, XX Men's Clothing, XX \$10.00 Now \$6.95. \$13.50 Now \$8.98.

Children's Clothing, XX Men's Clothing, XX \$15.00 Now \$10.95. \$20.00 Now \$12.88.

Our line of children's clothing is very strong and marked down to bedrock. We offer them to you during CLEARANCE SALE at a discount of 20 per cent. Divide the prices by 5 and they are yours.

Lowest prices guaranteed on all staples, prints, muslins, sheetings, flannels, etc.

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